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TITLE CONTENDER—Betty Baker, 15, is the first candidate to compete for Miss Torrance title as this year's contest gets under way to aid Torrance Area Boys Band. Miss Baker, sponsored by Downtown Retail Merchants Division stands 5 feet 4 inches tall and weighs 112 pounds. Other vital statistics are 34 1/2, 23, 34 1/2. (Press Photo)

Youth Crushed to Death While Working on Auto

Friend Escapes Injuries



DEATH VICTIM—Ambulance attendants and firemen remove Joseph Gamez, who dined after the car on which he was working fell from its blocks and fell on top of him. He was pronounced dead on arrival at Harbor General Hospital. (Press Photo)

A 17-year-old El Camino student was crushed to death when the car on which he was working slipped off its blocks, while his best friend narrowly escaped serious injuries Tuesday afternoon.

Joseph Gamez, 17, of 16215 Wilkie Ave., was pronounced dead on arrival at Harbor General Hospital.

He and Virgil Dunlap, 17, of 2609 W. 162nd St., had spent Veterans Day holiday putting springs under young Gamez' auto.

The boys were nearly finished with the job, when suddenly the vehicle started slipping down while they were underneath it.

Escapes Death

Dunlap, who was not under the car as far as his friend, managed to crawl out with not worse injury than a scratch on his face, but he was in a state of shock over his best friend's death Wednesday morning.

Both boys are members of the Charioteers, a Torrance police sponsored car club.

"He was very active in giving help to motorists on the road," said Officer A. L. Jackson, coordinator of the car clubs. Gamez, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jose D. Gamez, had attended North High School, and transferred to El Camino College this year to complete studies for his diploma.

Wonderful Boy

Mrs. Dunlap, who described young Gamez "as a most wonderful boy," said the boys were restoring the springs to the car, which had been lowered some time ago.

"It was just a miracle my boy didn't get hurt seriously," she said.

Gamez' body was freed from under the car by police and firemen who jacked up the vehicle and extricated him.

Funeral services are pending at McCormick's Redondo Beach mortuary.

Funds for Planners Requested

Request that members of the Planning Commission be reimbursed for expenses confronted, the City Council last night.

Joyanne J. Scharfman, director of finance, has rejected payment of mileage and dinner and luncheon tabs incurred by commission members, because the present ordinance prohibits this.

He pointed out to the City Council that commissioners are entitled to payment of \$10 per meeting, with a maximum of two per month at present.

But Planning Director George Powell said that planners frequently use their cars to make personal inspections of zoning cases and also attend meetings outside the city to discuss planning matters.

He asked that the ordinance be amended to permit reimbursement of expenses for travel and meetings.

Cost to the city was estimated at \$10 to \$15 per month per commissioner.

Safe Broken in Telephone Office

Some \$400 was stolen from a safe in the Lomita office of the Pacific Telephone Co., 24710 Narbonne Ave., deputies at the Lennox Sheriff's Station reported.

Officers said the thieves pried open the rear door with a pinch bar and then attacked the safe which they placed on its back.

Seven New Firms to Locate in Torrance

Location of seven new industries in Torrance, was hailed today by Chamber of Commerce officials "as one of the greatest achievements of industrial growth in modern history."

Announcement that seven manufacturing concerns intend to move their plants to this city, has dispelled the gloom which the cancellation of plans for the

Ramo-Woolbridge Corp. brought several months ago.

In addition to AirResearch Co., which intends to build a \$15,000,000 manufacturing facility here, Magnavox, Belond Muffler, Columbia Van Lines, Woodland Furniture, Magna Electronics and an un-named firm will move their operations to Torrance.

66 Acres

AirResearch intends to locate a plant on 66 acres on the north side of 190th St., between Crenshaw Blvd. and Arlington Ave. It will employ up to 6000 employees here. The firm is now located in Westchester.

Magnavox will build an electronics division on a 20-acre site north of Maricopa St., between Maple Ave. and Crenshaw Blvd. in Santa Fe Industrial Park. The company will operate a research and development facility.

Belond Muffler will locate on nine acres in the same area south of Warren Southwest, and will manufacture auto mufflers. The company which has gained fame through entries in the Indianapolis "500" and now employs 100 persons in its Culver City plant.

It intends to construct an 80,000 square foot building.

Santa Fe Park

Columbia Van Lines will also locate in Santa Fe Park, and will construct an 80,000-square-foot building on seven acres. The building will be valued at \$181,000.

Woodland Furniture now in (Continued on page two)

Library Contract Studied

Torrance's request for an extension of its county library contract will be taken up with top county officials.

John D. Henedyson, county librarian, said he will discuss the pact extension with the chief administrative officer within the next few days.

Torrance's contract with the county expires next June, and unless the contract is extended, the city will be forced to either form its own municipal library system, or join a county district.

A majority of the Library Commission favors joining the county district, while a minority is on record as boosting a municipal system.

City Manager George Stevens said that both the district and municipal systems would cost the city more than continuance of its present contract arrangement.

Earlier this year Henedyson suggested that the county might build a \$300,000 library building in the Civic Center.

Neighborhood Fracas Blamed on Hoodlums

A petition seeking additional policemen has been sent to the City Council as result of alleged hoodlum behaviour by a gang of party crashers over the weekend.

The petition, signed by 31 residents in the vicinity of Martha and Calamar Sts., asserts that between 20 and 25 juveniles roared down the streets in cars, screamed loudly and threw empty beer bottles Saturday night.

"These teenagers spread over the neighborhood looking into windows and fighting in backyards," the letter to the council asserted.

One resident, who did not wish his name used for fear of reprisal, said that two boys narrowly escaped being mowed down by cars which were used as rams, and that when they eluded the cars, bottles were thrown at them.

Backyard Fight

He said that in another instance, a boy was rescued by an Armed resident after four others cornered him in a backyard. A knife was found in the yard the following morning.

Residents also said that the following morning, six milk bottles were stolen from the porch of a house of John Wilson, 2719 Martha St., apparently as revenge for calling police.

Police Chief Percy Bennett said that two police cars arrived at the scene within five to seven minutes after the first call was received, and that officers made contact reports of the juveniles, two of whom were cited in for

Nov. 17.

The chief said there was no apparent shortage of manpower, since the officers on the scene did not request assistance.

Party Crashers

He said that trouble arose from a party in the neighborhood, and that the juveniles creating the disturbance were party crashers.

Neighbors said that they had to sweep up the streets because of broken glass and rocks hurled by the youths. They also claimed that several calls were made to the police department and that 15 to 30 minutes elapsed before the patrol cars arrived.

Police logs showed that the patrol cars remained in the neighborhood until 11:50 p.m., approximately 50 minutes after they arrived.

Bennett advised residents of homes where parties are given to notify the police department, so that patrol cars can keep an eye out for outward trouble.

He also urged parents to screen the invited guests, and call police at the first sign of trouble.

"If party crashers arrive, call the police department immediately. Don't wait until trouble comes," the chief said.

STEAL JEWELRY

A ring and watches valued at \$1950 were stolen from the home of Gertrude Lerche, 25609 Oak Ave., Lomita, deputy sheriffs reported.

Cat Mutilated by Cruel Fiend

A cruel fiend with a professional touch was blamed for the mutilation of a Siamese cat Tuesday.

South Bay Humane officers said that the eyes and nose of the cat, owned by Mrs. Fred Stanton, of 3502 Madison Ct., had been cut out.

They said that whoever did it, apparently had some surgical experience. They did not know whether the cat was dead or alive when the mutilation took place.

Erlene B. Benson, of 3502 Cricklewold Ave., who found the cat's body in her driveway, said that it was the second time in a year that a mutilation had been performed on a cat in the neighborhood.

Car Turns Over On YWCA Lawn, Trio Uninjured

Three girls narrowly escaped injury when their station wagon spun out of control on rain-slick pavement, and turned over on the lawn of the YWCA Tuesday morning.

Officers said the car was driven by Joan Elizabeth Donald, 17, of 1028 Crenshaw Blvd. The vehicle skidded on damp pavement on Plaza del Amo, plowed up 30 feet of hedge in front of the YWCA, and turned over on its top, officers said.

Passengers in the car were Betty Jack, of 2435 Border Ave., and Sharon Giles, 1203 Hickory St.



RED TAG RIDE—Invitation to take a ride is offered by three Torrance car dealers to Betty Baker. From left Vel Miletich, Ford, Dwight Eubank, Rambler, and Dick Hottenroth, sales manager of Paul's Chevrolet, demonstrate their willingness to offer rides to Red Tag Days shoppers who have no transportation. Sales event will be held tomorrow and Saturday. (Press Photo)

Red Tag Days Sale Will Feature Huge Bargain Offer

Torrance merchants will go all out tomorrow and Saturday during a Red Tag Days sale during which thousands of bargains will be offered. Shoppers were invited to take advantage of the sale items to stock up on their Christmas gifts at reduced prices.

Red Tag streamers on store windows will identify the participating stores. Most Torrance firms will join in the sales event.

Torrance car dealers will cooperate in the program by offering free rides to shoppers who have no transportation. The dealers will pick up and return the residents. Paul's Chevrolet, Eubank Rambler and Vel's Ford will take part in this special feature.

The Red Tag Day event will also be publicized by Long Beach Radio Station KFOX.

Bargain-seeking shoppers are advised that all items on sale will be marked by red tags.

Owner Has Fast Way of Filling Apartment

When it comes to filling vacancies among his 12 apartments, David Bland, of 20626 S. Western Ave., always turns to Torrance Press classified ads.

"We have 12 apartments and whenever we have a vacancy, we always call the Torrance Press because of the satisfactory response," said Bland.

He said he received 10 calls after he advertised an apartment for rent last week, and found a new tenant right away.

If you have something to sell, buy or rent, call a Torrance Press ad-taker at FA 8-2345 and let her help you with your advertising.

Westside Fire Station Site Urged by Chief

Acquisition of a fire station site in west Torrance as soon as possible, was urged last night by Fire Chief J. J. Benner.

He said that because of the residential and commercial growth of that area a site should be purchased "as expeditiously as possible."

City Red Tag Days Friday and Saturday

(See Special Section)